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ALLEDGER

Vol. VI, No. 4

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 1-NOVEMBER 15, 1985

Why Do Students Attend BCLS?

By Professor Robert Berry

In the early Fall of 1982, we administered a questionnaire to our entering first year class that was aimed chiefly at discovering something about the process by which people decide to go to law school and, in particular, to attend Boston College Law School. You will recall that was the year of the "bulge", where we had over 320 entering students. That fact alone suggested we find out more about why we were suddenly so popular.

The results of the 1982 survey were interesting, though far from conclusive. Bob Bloom and I thought, however, it would be a good idea to repeat the administration of the questionnaire with this year's entering class, to see if there were any discernible patterns or deviations from patterns detected three years ago. With the assistance of Mark Brodin, both first year sections responded — 128 from section one, and 122 from section two. (The responses in section one were down slightly, since the questionnaire was given the day of the "bomb scare" and several students never made it to what remained of my 10 o'clock class; thus their attitudes about coming to law school are forever lost — such is life.)

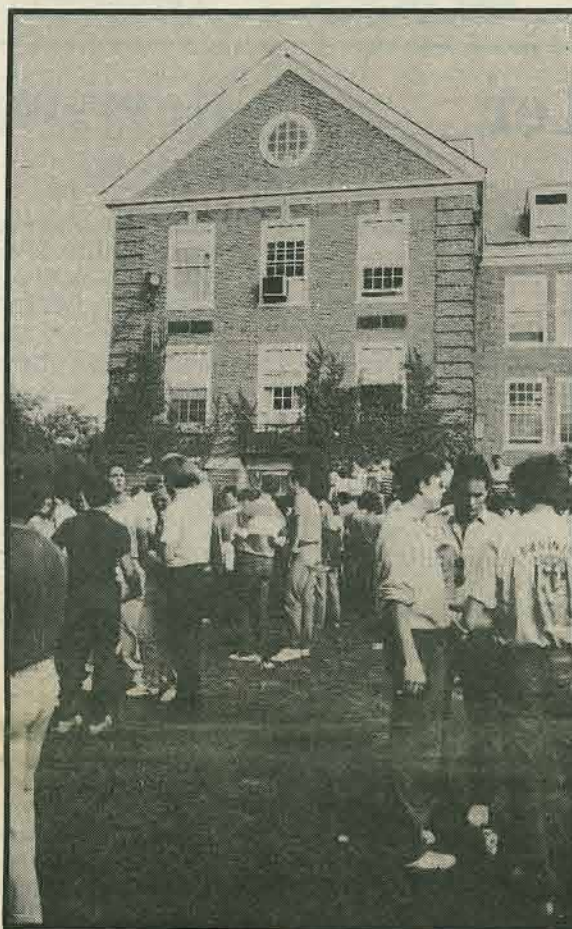
What follows is a breakdown of the responses elicited from this year's questionnaire. In most of the tables, a comparison is made between this year's results and those in 1982. The percent of students responding in a particular way is the key, since the raw numbers vary, with 321 responding in 1982 and 250 in 1985. The most noteworthy aspect of comparing the responses of the two years is the similarity in results. Very few significant deviations occur. This is not to suggest there are no changes; but, overall, there are few surprises.

Boston College Law School continues to enjoy a high volume of admissions applications. If we can maintain this pattern, all should be well. But we must realize that such will not necessarily continue, given the clear national trends of declining applications. Thus, we should study our strengths and capitalize on them. Hopefully, these questionnaire results help us better understand our institution.

The questionnaire elicited responses about four general areas, including: (1) background information on where the responder did his/her undergrad work, to what schools the person applied, to what schools the person was admitted, and what else the person was doing before law school; (2) reasons for deciding to go to law school; (3) primary factors that led to Boston College being the school attended; and (4) the reasons for applying to Boston College in the first place. The first three of these areas were also surveyed in 1982; the reasons for applying to B.C. were added to the 1985 survey.

Background Information on the 1985 First Year Class

Our students come from a wide variety of undergraduate institutions. Many have been doing other things for some period of time between college and law school. One question posed was whether the responder was actively engaged in another profession just prior to entering law school. Of the 250 questioned, 85 responded in the affirmative, constituting 34% of the class. This compares with a 30% affirmative response rate in 1982, a slight increase, but not one that is particularly significant.



The atmosphere at BCLS has played a major role in attracting students.

The respondents were further asked to identify their profession, if there was one. No real patterns could be detected from the responses. Eleven in the class (4.5%) were teachers of one sort or another, and ten (4%) were paralegals. After that, the figures are almost random: five in sales, four in the military, four accountants, three each were reporters, in politics, computers or insurance. Then there were one or two who had been in such as publishing, the restaurant business, libraries, medicine, psychology and other disciplines.

As to the decision to attend law school being a very recent one, the 63 affirmative responses (25%) continue to constitute a healthy proportion of the first year class, as did the 72 (22%) in 1982. The three percent difference in the two years' results suggests a close similarity in the decision process, rather than any real difference.

Our students continue to apply to several law schools, although one interesting difference can be noted between the 1982 and 1985 results. The average number of law school applications submitted by our students dropped slightly, with a mean of 6.46 in 1982 and 5.93 in 1985. However, the number of law schools to which they were admitted rose, from an average of 3.18 in 1982 to 4.08 in 1985, a significant increase. I would not interpret this as meaning our students are that much better in terms of credentials. Our data suggest this is not the case. I think the more sobering reality is that other schools are accepting more applicants and that we may find ourselves with ever increasing competition as to those students we admit.

The data reveals that 43 (17%) of our students applied to 10 or more law schools, with some intrepid souls actually applying in the ranges of 15 to 19 law schools. Table One [on page 7] indicates the large number of schools to which the students were admitted, with one being admitted to 14 schools and another 13! At the other end, six students applied only to B.C. (see Table Three) and

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Pub Trust Fund In Transition

By Irwin B. Schwartz

Prof. Robert C. Berry was quietly nominated trustee of the Boston College Law School Publications Trust Fund last week. Berry, also chairman of a new Special Committee on Fiscal Affairs, will replace Prof. Richard G. Huber, former dean and trustee.

Berry will join Prof. William F. Willier in managing the \$250 thousand fund. Willier, a trustee since 1963, will assume the role of administrating trustee, the task formerly performed by Huber. Francis Wepman, Willier's administrative assistant, will take over book-keeping for the trust fund.

The shakeup of the trustees signals far-reaching changes in how the Law School funds its student activities and publications costs. After a private meeting with Berry, Dean Daniel R. Coquillette told the *Alledger* that, unlike former Dean Huber, he will not distribute publication trust fund monies.

"The operation of the school should not be supported by the fund," Coquillette said. He added that the Law School has received a "very substantial University support budget."

Coquillette explained that under Dean Huber, student activities, emergency financial aid, and publications were sometimes funded on an "ad hoc" basis. He said budgets for student activities now must be submitted to Associate Dean Kenneth H. Ernstoff, while Director of Admissions Louise M. Clark will handle all requests for emergency financial aid and Coordinator of Student Publications Rosalind F. Kaplan will watch over the external publications' budgets. Coquillette indicated that funds requested for activities and publications will be supplied solely by the University.

"It (the Trust Fund) has been used for things that the University legitimately should pay for—the cost of the basic (law review and journal) publications ought to be borne by the University," he said.

In a telephone interview with the *Alledger*, Willier explained that the Publications Trust Fund receives \$100 thousand per year from royalties generated by the *U.C.C. Reporter Digest*.

Willier said Trust Fund monies should be used for student financial assistance, as well as sup-

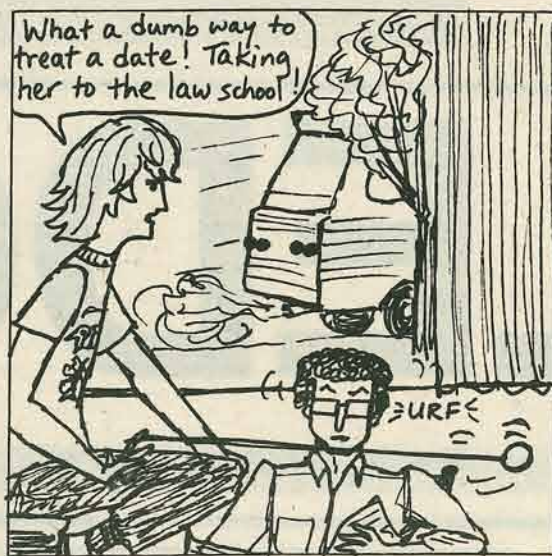
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Professor William Willier will become the administrating trustee of the Publications Trust Fund.

OPINION/EDITORIAL

Future J.D.'s by B.C. Rowe



An Afterword on Elections

By Andrew H. Sharp

By the time that this is seen in print the elections for 1L representatives to the LSA will be a distant memory. However, I would like to express some thoughts on the manner and effectiveness of the campaigning.

The two groups of candidates for the first year sections were allowed to introduce themselves to their voting public but, sadly, little or no time was afforded for the treatment of substantive issues. I find this disturbing in that it reduces the 1L voters' decision—THE most important decision of the year — to a popularity contest. I figured that high school would be the last time that I would have to witness such a bastardization of the political system

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Letter

To the Editor of the Alledger:

Formerly Dean Huber, and lately Dean Coquellette have repeatedly stressed the congenial and cooperative atmosphere at BC Law School. In fact, the expectation of studying in such an environment was one of the factors that convinced me, and I'm sure many other students, to pursue a legal education here. Initially, I was pleasantly surprised. The "first-year" experience quickly bonded the students together toward a common goal—survival. This was in marked contrast to the horror stories relayed to me by my friends at other local law schools. That is why, barely half way through the semester, I am so bothered by the attitudinal shift of some of the first-years from one of cooperation to one of cut-throat.

The recent first-year library exercise brought out the best qualities of the Class of 1988. Some students gave help above and beyond the call of duty: sharing the precious few Shepard's volumes, hinting how best to use same, and explaining the concepts behind the West key system. However, there were also a number of selfish acts that stick in my mind: hiding the appropriate volumes in an obscure cubby-hole for personal use, screaming "I'm using those" when anyone came within ten feet of the Shepard's tables and, as reprehensible as it may seem, intentionally leading others astray (i.e. lying to others when they seek help on a problem that you just completed). Call me naive folks, but I thought that we were all in this mess together. I'm not against competitiveness, in fact I've been accused of it myself by some of my closest friends, but a little bit goes a long way. Besides, if these types of things happen during a basically ungraded exercise, what happens when we are working on research or advocacy briefs—each 50% of the final grade? Just relax everybody, and don't sacrifice your ethics so easily. Save the type-A behavior for exams.

Peter S. Michaels (1L)

Reviving The Federalists

By Eric Lee

With a conservative president in the White House and occasional rhetoric of a major political realignment, it can hardly be surprising to see conservative student groups thriving on the nation's college campuses. Two first year students would like to extend this to Boston College Law School. Geoffrey Kransdorf and Carlos Deupi are in the process of reviving the once dormant student group, the BC Federalists.

How did this re-formation come about? In informal discussions with some of his peers, Kransdorf noticed that the school "has plenty of forums for liberal views, but very few for conservative or even moderate views." "This is unfortunate," he continued, "since a lot of lawyers are conservative and law schools should reflect that." With the emergence of the Federalists, Kransdorf and Deupi hope to bring about a balance of political views on campus.

Spurred by the initial conversations, the two student leaders acquired verbal commitments from the administration and a member of the faculty. If there is sufficient student interest, the administration will recognize the Federalists as an official student organization and authorize

funding. Professor George Brown, an unabashed Reagan supporter, has agreed to act as the group's faculty advisor.

Kransdorf announced that he is "shooting for an organization of about twenty people," but added that, "a dozen or so would be enough to get the program off the ground." The group spokesman confidently summarized, "It won't take a lot of students to do it."

Yet early indications seem to suggest that much more than a positive spirit will be needed for the group to survive. Kransdorf admits that the preliminary membership drives were disappointing. A sign-up sheet on the academic board did produce a few interested names, but it also included such notable figures as James Madison (Historians will note that Madison was a Jeffersonian Democrat, and a leading opponent of the early American Federalist Party), Jerry Falwell, Jesse Helms and Muammar Khadafy. In reference to the pranksters, Kransdorf was left to say, "It was predictable, but still distressing."

Another recruiting attempt yielded no better results. Before the beginning of a Torts class a few weeks ago, Kransdorf and Deupi made a personal pitch to their section classmates. At the

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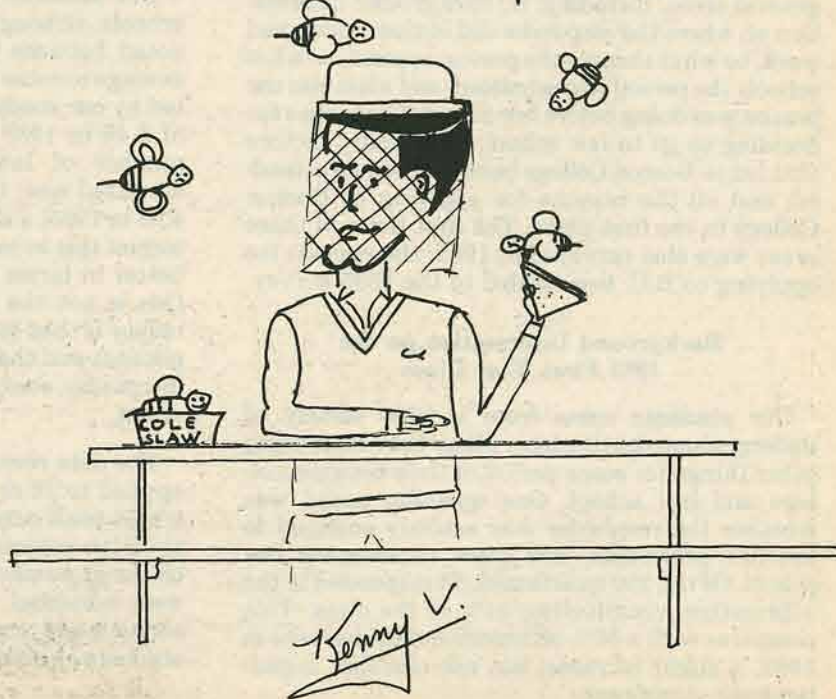
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Dirk dons his beekeeper's outfit for a leisurely lunch at "the new picnic tables"



Star Wars and the Law

By Andrew H. Sharp

On Friday October 11, the LSA Speaker Series presented Phillip O'Neil who discussed legal aspects of the "Star Wars" debate.

Mr. O'Neil, an expert on international law (and BCLS grad), opened his discussion by examining the existing legal restraints on space and weapons. The issue first surfaced in 1957 when President Eisenhower pledged to use outer space for peaceful purposes only. NATO established peace initiatives as well, although they were not satisfactory to the Soviet Union. In regard to satellites as weapons, the US and USSR did agree to abide by a non-binding United Nations agreement. 1963 saw the establishment of a partial test ban treaty affecting nuclear weapons in outer space. The Outer Space Treaty (1967) prohibited "nuclear weapons or other destructive weapons in outer space." This treaty was met with concern in a number of regards. The terms "outer" and "inner" space were not satisfactorily defined. Similarly vague were the definitions of "nuclear weapon" and "destructive weapons." There was additional uncertainty as to what would constitute a peaceful use of space. Was "peaceful" to be interpreted as "non-military?" According to Phillip O'Neil, the term "peaceful" eventually came to mean "non-aggressive."

Other measures that impact on today's debate were the 1971 super powers' agreement to give notice of interference with nuclear warning systems, and the 1974 ABM Treaty which prohibited testing for the development of anti-ballistic missile systems.

The current anti-satellite weapons program, or "Star

Wars," is geared towards low-orbiting satellites, and those satellites focused at U.S. Naval deployments. The Soviet Union's version of this weapon preceeds the United States' weapon but is generally viewed as inferior and little threat to US systems.

In 1981 the Soviet Union proposed a ban on the testing of space weapons. This proposal contained many loopholes and for this reason was not taken seriously by the U.S. The 1983 Soviet proposal contained fewer loopholes, but problems persisted. The primary bone of contention concerned whether an appropriate standard of verification could be agreed upon by both sides: If standards were set too high then falsified violations could result—if they were too loose then violations with impunity would ensue.

The Star Wars program is subject to both domestic and international restraints. The domestic restraints include high altitude testing limits, and the Tsongas Amendment which allows tests of space weapons only when national security interests mandate it. The existing international restraints do not pertain directly to Star Wars. The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the Outer Space Treaty, environmental treaties, and the ABM Treaty, all offer only limited restraint upon ASAT testing. This is due in part to the fact that the ASAT program would entail the testing of parts of weapon components and not fully functional ASATs.

When asked whether any significant agreement will result from the upcoming meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev, Phillip O'Neil responded that it is doubtful that at this stage in the bargaining there could be any deal made of truly great importance.

A Few Minutes with R.T.

By R.T.

How 'bout that law school softball league? Peter Ubberroth better watch out because softball league commissioner Colin Coleman is poised to move up to "the big leagues" if Ubberroth does anything that will detract from our national pastime. Coleman has overseen a major expansion of the league with teams representing each class year and the competition has been better than ever. All Coleman has to do is convince ABC that the softball league is more popular than the U.S.F.L. (no big problem) and Al Michaels will be announcing "Batting first for the Ferrae Natural..."

A lot of people have been having a good time with the interview scene, but what I want to know is "How 'bout those interview questions?" For instance an interviewer from Nashua, New Hampshire or Hoboken, New Jersey might ask, "Where else are you applying? Now, I don't know about you, but when they ask that question I don't think they're expecting you to say, "Boston, New York, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco," which would probably be true. Noooooo, sir. If you say that you might as well kiss Hoboken goodbye. (I know it hurts.)

Instead, I think I know what they're expecting and I give it to them—good. I'll say, "Actually, the only city I'm considering out of the whole, wonderful country is Nashua/Hoboken (You could substitute for the above

Montpelier, Vermont; Presque Isle, Maine; Snow Shoe, Minnesota or Sioux City, South Dakota) or maybe Concord/Hackensack."

You have to watch the "or maybes" though, because if you start *maybeing* you can get in trouble. An "Or maybe Worcester" can easily lead to an "Or maybe Boston" which will closely be followed by an "Or maybe New York. Or maybe L.A...."

You can "or maybe" your way to where the interviewer will think, "Or maybe we'll hire someone else."

Let's say, I said, "Sioux City, South Dakota is the only place I want to work." Now, I still haven't convinced the interviewer I *really* am interested in Sioux City. He wants *more*. What to do? I call on my handy dandy relative who, I tell him, wandered across Asia Minor, fought off the Mongolian warriors (or was it the Seahawks or Chargers?) and finally settled in Iowa. I'll say, my ancestors were there before the Sioux!" Now, I think I've convinced him.

Whenever, my sincerity is questioned I just pull out an ancestor or two. One owned a cherry orchard right down the street from George, another made movies with Metro, Goldwyn and Mayer, and a third assisted dead people in voting for Richard Daly. Those ancestors! Where would I be in this interview process without them!

How 'bout this question? (A definite all-time favorite.) The interviewer will say "What do you do in your free time?" My first inclination is to smile because obviously the interviewer hasn't heard that the Emancipation Proclamation did not include law students as some Civil War scholars has previously believed! But then I decide to give the interviewer a break and play along

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LAW SCHOOL FORUM

Viewpoint By Bonnie Rowe

Question Asked: What's your opinion, legal or otherwise, of President Reagan's decision to intercept the aircraft carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship, Achille Lauro?



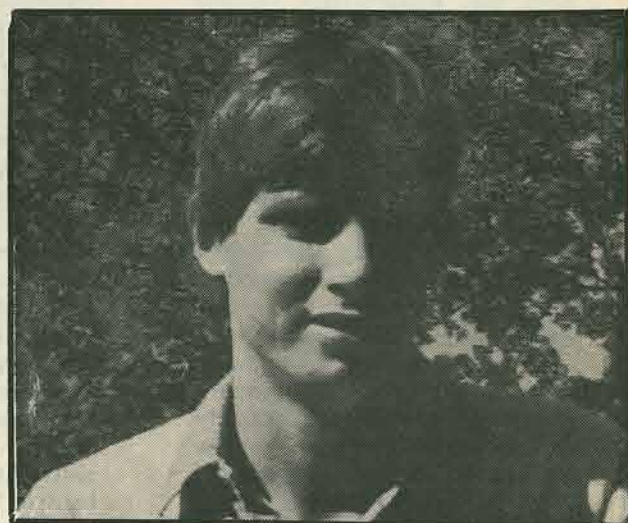
Susan Hulbert (1L)

"I think it's good that we're sending a message to terrorists that violent actions against Americans or anyone else will not be tolerated. But the hard-line message we sent to Egypt, which tried to intervene (after Syria refused) isn't good for our relationship with that country, and also shows the rest of the world that the United States returns a terrorist attack with terrorism of its own. So I guess I have ambivalent feelings about this."



Maite Aponte-Parsi (2L)

"It was a tough decision to make—I have mixed feelings about it. Something *must* be done to stop terrorism. However, the administration's hypocrisy about the issue troubles me: it's O.K. to intercept a plane, but it's also O.K. to support terrorist groups in other countries such as some in Central America, etc. . . . So it's selective deterrence of terrorism."



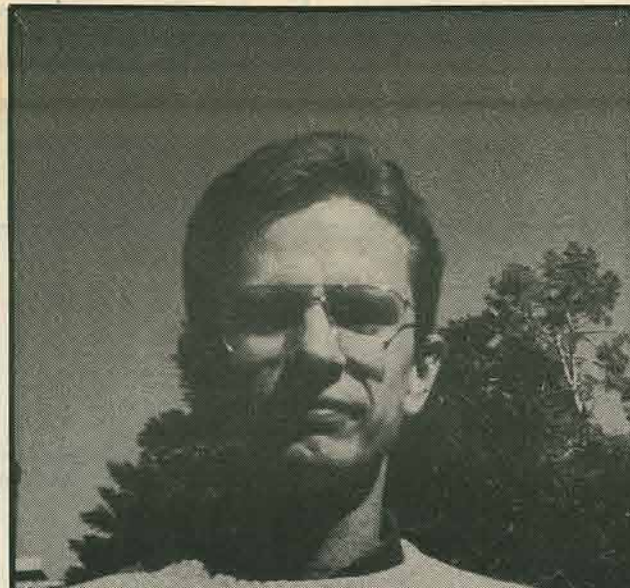
Tom Melville (3L)

"I'm in favor of using the legal system to arrest and prosecute terrorists whenever and wherever they can be found. I am troubled by the hypocrisy of the Reagan administration, however. It went after terrorists in this case, but in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Chile, Haiti, and elsewhere it has funded and supported terrorists—murderers, kidnappers, rapists and the like."



Javier Ferrer (3L)

"Terrorism is a vice that must be eradicated. However, I am concerned about President Reagan's move. There is a difference between deterrence and active participation. If the United States does not recognize this difference, it will act essentially very much like the terrorists it seeks to prosecute. Proper procedure must not be forgotten in the search for justice."



Graham Teall (2L)

"I'm not conflicted—I see this as a terrorist act that he committed—on the other hand there aren't any effective legal means to fight terrorism."



Xiomara Corral (2L)

"I can see why President Reagan did it—it's a reaction to the helplessness that people feel when terrorist acts occur—because no procedure exists for dealing with terrorism."

Elections

Continued from page 2

In light of the inadequacies which I witnessed, I would like to suggest some campaign alternatives which would both conserve time and allow the voters a basis to make a reasonable decision:

1. Have the candidates select topics at random to discuss in one minute, ala The Miss America pageant. Such questions could include "What universal goal would you like to see accomplished in your lifetime?" or "How I would like to help humankind" or "Should a girl pet on the first date if both parties are mature and liberal?" [See Woody Allen, "Take the Money And Run".]

2. The candidates could each tell one joke. It's surprising how much one can learn from a person's sense of humor, or lack thereof. I know that I still chuckle over Reagan's quip about nuking

those pesky Ruskies.

3. Have the candidates disclose one deep, dark secret of their past. The more egregious the disclosure, the more honesty and integrity would be shown. In 1972, Thomas Eagleton certainly won points in my book when he admitted to several occasions of shock therapy. I fumed when George McGovern was bullied into forcing him off the ticket.

4. Another way of assessing integrity would be to require candidates to publicly admit the real reason they are seeking the position of LSA rep. eg. looks good on resume, would please parents, thirst for power, naivety, self aggrandizement.

The LSA would do well to consider my points and suggestions. I might add that my ideas most certainly do not represent the ONLY alternatives to the present system—Rather, it is my aim to stimulate discussion on this all-important issue.

Federalists

Continued from page 2

mere mention of a conservative student group, the two faced a chorus of boos and hisses, some in jest and some not. Kransdorf hopes to boost membership by seeking interested students on an individual basis.

With respect to potential membership, the student spokesman emphasized that the Federalists could be "a ground for a lot of different views." Kransdorf would not object to membership of "dyed-in-the-wool old-time liberals." In fact, he encourages liberals to join: "We're not excluding anybody."

This appears to be a contradictory proposition. If it is true that there exists an imbalance of liberal and conservative forums on campus (in the former's favor), it seems wholly unlikely that a new conservative student group would seek a left-wing balance within itself. Perhaps this is understandable in light of the low

turnout of potential recruits. Undoubtedly, much of the Federalists' future plans hinge upon sufficient student interest.

The membership issue aside, Kransdorf admits that his group's biggest interest problem is a public relations one. In the past, many of the students have perceived the Federalists as a radical right wing organization. The 1L categorically denies that the group will be an extremist unit. In the same light, he also dismisses the notion that members would embrace a monolithic conservative platform. Just as there are a wide range of liberal views at BCLS, the Federalists will likely have within its membership a wide range of conservative views, Kransdorf reasons.

What would Kransdorf like to see as the focus of the Federalists' activities? Laissez-faire capitalism and individual rights. In other words, "to get government off (the) backs of (business and people in general)."

Outlaws Gun For Championship

By Eddy Cosio

Yes, my fellow I.D. enthusiasts there is life outside the Newton Campus. So get your faces out of your casebooks and study aids and smell the coffee (God help you if you decide to drink it). Boston College Law School is being represented in the Intramural Football League. The BCLS Outlaws have won all four of their games and are on their way to improving their quarterfinal finish of a year ago. While there are other teams from the law school participating in the league, the Outlaws are the only *proven* team to be in contention for the championship. (If you must know their names the other two teams are the Killer B's and J, V & M).

There have been some changes in the Outlaw's front office. Richard Huber sold the team to Daniel Coquillette during the off-season and Coquillette has made some changes. The Outlaws are once again led by player/coach David "Sarge" Newman. Newman surprised the team this year when he abandoned the Les Steckel approach and let the team coach itself. However, he still requires the team to run wind sprints while he plays with his clipboard on the sidelines.

Vinny "The Humble One" Trovini was picked off the free-agency list when the ill-fated "Rat Pack" folded as a result of managerial indecision. Trovini who to this day insists he can catch the ball with his hands of stone is presently at the tackle position. When asked to comment on his performance thus far Trovini said, "It's a *ting* of

beauty, I not only feel good, I look mah-val-lus."

Bill "The Machine" Martin is on loan to the Outlaws from the Law School Library, where he was forced to pay rent last year as a result of his constant presence on the third floor. If the Outlaws can keep Martin out of the Placement Office he will prove to be a valuable addition to the team.

Mike "Give me a light" Morrison returns as the team's Quarterback. The Outlaws only complaint about Morrison is that they have to drag him out of the local bars before each game. While Morrison continues to be a force on the playing field his breath proves to be a greater force in the huddle. The team is praying that Morrison "gets the Signal."

Eddy "Miami's bin berry, berry good to me" Cosio (no relation to this writer), is the only Latin on the team. While Cosio has proven himself as a defensive back and placekicker, the team continues to worry about his tendency to constantly want to kick the ball. According to "Sarge" Newman, the team is trying to explain to Cosio that American football is not the same as "futball" (soccer) and that the former is not played with a round black and white ball that is constantly being kicked into a net.

Russ "try and find me" Stewart is the only third year player on the Outlaws. Stewart is hardly ever seen in public (or in school) but somehow makes it to every game. Russ is a steady

player but had some problems last year with his uniform. It seems that instead of wearing the conventional sweats last year, Stewart would play in Levi Corduroys and Landau Sweaters. The Outlaws have not given up on Stewart, he did buy sneakers this year.

Tony Gemma returns as the team's wide receiver and punter. Those of you that were around last year will recall that Gemma proclaimed himself the team's M.V.P. The team went along with this joke simply because Tony's brother Chris was also on the

team and they wanted to do what they could do to keep Chris happy. As it turns out Chris is the real athlete in the Gemma family and Tony's days with the Outlaws are numbered.

OUTLAW TIDBITS: There is no truth to the rumor that Mike Morrison will be traded for Shawn Halloran. Howard Cosell will no longer broadcast the Outlaws away games. The team is proud to announce that there is no drug problem on the team or in the league. And this Sunday the Dolphins will embarrass the Patriots.

RT

Continued from page 3

with his question. I'll say, "Oh, Free Time? I've heard about that. That's something you have when you have nothing else to do. I think I had 15 minutes of free time last February. That's when I talked to Mom. She told me I had a new sister, the Celtics had won three championships and there's a new station called MTV." It's amazing all the things you can learn about when you have some free time. I think I was a lock for that job.

Of course sometimes I'm a little less serious and I'll go up to the interviewer, knock on his head and say, "Hello. Is anyone home? George, do you *think* we have free time? What do you think this is George, Romper Room? Harvard?

When I'm more serious, I'll ask the interviewer, "What do you mean by free time? As in this is America and I'm free *all* of the time to do what I want. Or maybe

the interviewer means "free-free time," which would be when I'm not in class. Or maybe he means "free-free-free time," which is when I'm not in class, in the library, on law school property, studying at home, thinking about law school or a law job or watching "People's Court."

But, even more seriously, what do you think the interviewer really wants you to say when he asks, "What do you do in your free time?" Sometimes, I'll say, "I'm rather busy translating a 4th century B.C. Egyptian parchment which I discovered on my archaeological dig last summer in Athens." That's for the big firms. Or maybe I'll say, "Oh, yes I've been getting hammered quite a bit lately..." That's for the medium-small size firms. Or maybe I'll say, "I know these two girls, twins, blonds, who are into..." That's for the real big firms. Ropes and Gray maybe. Or maybe I'll say, "I write these goofy articles for the school paper. Do you want to read one?"

Pub Trust

Continued from page 1

porting legitimate publications expenses that the University could not be expected to fund. Among these expenses he included the annual publications dinner and law review social functions that "keep morale up."

The trust document grants broad powers to the trustees to disburse funds in support of the law school publications. Further, the trustees may fund scholarships or make academic loans to BCLS students with preference given to students participating in a publication program.

Willier said he has proposed that Trust Fund monies be used to create a guaranteed student loan program similar to the Federal GSL Program. Such a program, he explained, might entail deposit of funds at a lending institution which would then make available five times the deposited amount in student loans.

Coquillette said he believes Trust Fund student loans will be distributed through Louise Clark's office on a case-by-case basis in emergencies. Neither Coquillette nor Willier indicated the volume of funds to be made available.

Berry said the uses of the Trust Fund monies is an issue being considered by his Special Committee on Fiscal Affairs. The Special Committee, consisting of Deans Coquillette, Flackett, and Lutch, and five faculty members, does not include Willier.

While admitting that the Trust Fund is separate from the Law School and the Special Committee's recommendations are non-binding, Coquillette said that the faculty should have a say in the Trust's disbursement to insure that it is not "discriminatory or unfair." He said that while the faculty agrees with previous disbursements, the Special Committee may recommend against certain expenditures that "might create disharmony." It is unclear, however, whether Berry's dual role as Special Committee Chairman and Publications Trust Fund trustee will give the committee defacto control over the Trust.

Whatever the determination of the committee, the Trust Fund will continue to provide funds for the publication of the *U.C.C. Reporter-Digest*, Willier said. Expenses for the *Reporter-Digest* include mailing, copying, and social events, according to one administrator.

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Why Attend?

Continued from page 1

were joined by another nine who were admitted only to B.C. (Table Four). Some in this latter group indicated they had withdrawn their applications from other schools when they were notified of their acceptance at B.C.

It should be noted that the number admitted only by B.C. declined significantly in 1985 as opposed to 1982. In 1982, 44 (14%) of our entering class of 321 were in fact admitted only at B.C. In 1985, of the 250 responding, that number dropped to 15 (6%). [See Table One]

As in 1982, it is important we note other schools to which our students apply and are admitted. The data generated by our own surveys are, of course, incomplete, since the responses are by those who chose to attend Boston College. More complete data are available each year, through the overlap reports released by the Law School Admission Council. The 1985 survey of our own first year class does, nevertheless, produce some interesting statistics. Among these is how many in the class were accepted by certain other schools but chose to come to B.C. In this category, our chief rivals appear to be the following:

	# of Our Students Accepted	Percent of Class
Boston University	105	42
Suffolk	67	27
Northeastern	42	17
Georgetown	32	13
N.Y.U.	10	4
Cornell	8	3

The percent of our entering students (42%) also admitted at B.U. is about the same as it was in 1982, when 44% of the first year class was admitted by both B.C. and B.U., but chose B.C. The LSAC overlap figures tell us that, of every five applicants admitted by both schools who go to one school or the other, four of five choose B.C.

Reasons for Going to Law School

The main question that asked why people chose to go to law school at this time yielded results similar to the same question posed in 1982. One significant difference was a decline among those who cited the economy as making law school particularly attractive. In 1982, 19% of the respondents cited this as a reason; in 1985, only 10% did so. As to other factors, the 1982 and 1985 percentages are remarkable consistent. [See Table Two on page 7.]

Beyond the standard questions posed, students also volunteer many individual reasons for attending law school. I will not attempt to list all such reasons, but will quote a few:

"The opportunity to serve people, and the intellectual challenge."

"I believe the thinking and analyzing processes taught at law school will make me a better elected official, or writer."

"Hoping to effect some change in the world."

"Want to understand law, especially international law."

"Use as an avenue to a career in government."

"Complement to city planning degree."

"Perhaps idealism will wane as academic pursuit of law progresses, but I really feel there are some serious problems with the ethics of many lawyers practicing today. (I've worked in the legal

field for 10 years.) I feel that in addition to providing traditional services attorneys should be actively involved in developing other areas of dispute resolution for the public."

"Seek knowledge for its own purpose."

"The study of law provides an excellent education in the workings of society."

"Law is a good instrument for social and political change."

"The intellectual challenge."

"Working in the entertainment business kindled an interest in the legal aspects of that field."

"Expect to join it with another career; in that sense, it offers additional flexibility and opportunity."

Reason for Attending Boston College

As in 1982, two questions probed why individuals chose Boston College. The responses in 1985 were largely similar to those in 1982. Even so, certain differences should be noted.

The survey indicates that the reputation of the school in general was cited by 94% in 1985, as compared with 88% in 1982, a good sign. Likewise, the idea that the school fostered a friendly environment rose from 1982's 66% to 74% in 1985, another healthy indicator. Also rising substantially as reasons were the reputation of the faculty (from 22% to 32%) and the school's placement opportunities (from 21% to 37%). Both I believe, merit special attention.

Students were asked to indicate their primary reasons for choosing BCLS from a list of ten responses. In general, an average of 3.57 factors were marked as significant in 1982; the mean rose to 4.01 factors in the 1985 survey.

Relative to the question forming the basis for Table Six, the students were also asked to indicate, where appropriate, the one or two factors that most predominated their making B.C. their final choice. When posed in this manner, two factors — the reputation of the school and the school being known for its friendly environment — were the overwhelming choices.

A second set of responses, elicited information about the types of people most influential in persuading the student to attend Boston College. Interestingly, although the top two categories in 1982 remained the same, both the advice of lawyer acquaintances and of students already in law school declined. Lawyer acquaintances fell from 49.5% in 1982 to 40% in 1985. The decline in student advice was more modest, 41% to 39%. On the other hand, the advice of parents/relatives rose from 31% in 1982 to 38% in 1985. Regardless of whether some factors rose or declined slightly, it is nevertheless clear that much of the decision-making by students is based in significant part of their talking to others.

Reasons for Applying to Boston College

The 1982 questionnaire did not survey why students applied to B.C. Law School in the first place. This was later considered an oversight, one corrected in the 1985 questionnaire. The thought was that there might be a great difference between what our recruitment efforts mean in terms of initial applications, as opposed to other factors predominating a student's final decision to attend. I am not at all certain this was the result, but the responses are nevertheless interesting.

Table Three [on page 7] reports on the factors deemed important by our 1985 entering class in deciding to apply to Boston College. One factor listed here does not appear (again through oversight) on the correlary question why students chose to attend B.C. This relates to our location in the Boston area. B.C.'s location was the second most popular reason for the respondents applying to B.C. in the first place.

Table Four on page 7 compares responses as to why students first applied to B.C. and then why they chose B.C. Almost all categories experienced a percentage rise, indicating that more factors influenced the final decision to attend than dictated the decision to apply in the first place. The most notable jump was the 53% to 74% increase relative to the school's reputation for a friendly environment. It would seem BCLS is getting the word out somehow in the time between when people apply and choose to attend, at least for many of our applicants. For that reason, the modest rise from 8% to 11% concerning the school's recruitment and public relations efforts may not tell the whole story. People may not realize p.r. when they hear it (although it is obviously accurate p.r.).

One might have speculated that more people would be convinced to apply in the first place because of our recruitment and p.r. effort and that the percentage would decline as an influence on the final choice. But this did not occur. As noted, it rose from 8% to 11%.

Concluding Comments

I conclude this excursus by letting our first year students speak for themselves. They were asked to comment on how recently it was that they gained a distinct impression about the quality of BCLS as compared to other schools. Their observations both confirm our relatively strong position and issue a challenge for faculty and students alike.

"I became increasingly aware of B.C., and on speaking to alumni(ae) at my firm, I realized it was an unusually good place for my goals."

"I became aware of B.C.'s reputation initially in discussions with faculty members and advisors at my undergraduate institution. This was reinforced in discussions with individuals associated with the legal profession."

"Throughout my research of different law schools, I was impressed with the amount of material and number of people who referred to the good, friendly and helpful atmosphere at B.C. I applied to Harvard and Yale just to see if I could get in, but I really wanted to go to B.C., for the above reason."

"Lawyers in the local area have been impressed with the performance of B.C. law graduates."

"It was quite recent that I realized B.C.'s reputation compared to other schools. I knew it was 'top 20,' but was unaware of its rising status."

"Having done research on the various top law schools in the country, I became aware of B.C.'s top credentials."

"I have been impressed with the quality of B.C. Law School since I began applying to law schools in 1984. I deferred my admissions to B.U. Law School and over that year reapplied to B.C. Law School because I had learned more about the school and became convinced of the quality of its education opportunity. Very recently, having registered at B.U. and experiencing a sense

of the schools, I have become more aware of the differences between the two schools."

"Family law — Taxation Law — Entertainment Law."

"B.C. was initially attractive because it is in New England. I liked the idea of being close to a city (after attending a rural undergraduate setting), yet still in a small town. My main choice came down to its reputation and location." (Cornell was the other choice — it lost on location.)

"I visited B.C. in March '85 as a guest of a then first year student. I sat in on a few classes and was impressed by the friendly atmosphere. The students appeared to really enjoy the school and faculty. Also, nobody said much good about Boston University."

"I have long realized the high quality of this school and its reputation of being very supportive of the minor community. I also considered the importance of the proximity of this school to my home."

"I was curious from having read good law review articles, heard it mentioned in 'The Verdict' and talk of Flutie; so I visited first, liked it, and decided to apply after a very cordial meeting with Ken Ernstoff and Mr. Bloom."

"Doug Flutie had *nothing* to do with it."

"I am interested in environmental law specifically. Further, a B.C. law alumna recommended the school, especially its humanity. I evaluated around 22 schools from their admissions information — B.C., I felt, would provide the best social, intellectual, academic and political atmosphere."

"Reputation for commercial law. Hearing from others, I also knew B.C. had a cooperative atmosphere. One visit to the school confirmed this, and none of the other law schools where I was accepted displayed such concern about the students as people."

"My dealing with admissions staff over the phone and through the mail was very distinctive and professional in comparison to other schools. I didn't feel like just 'another' student, but was treated as an individual."

"B.C.'s contacts during the application procedure was excellent. There was time and thought given to all communication."

"B.C.'s approach to learning is more 'relaxed' rather than pressured — looks at law school as pleasant experience rather than bad memories of first year, etc."

"In talking to other lawyers, I found that Boston College was very prestigious. It was indeed an eyebrow raiser among attorneys if one said he or she was going to B.C. I wanted to go to a law school with reputation and atmosphere."

"My impression of B.C. was initially established by the well organized format of the application. Upon visiting the campus twice during the summer, I realized this was the school I wanted to attend, based on the environment, and the general congeniality of the staff."

"I have intended to attend law school since high school. Over the past year, talking with lawyers, law faculty at another school, and B.C. law alumni, I became increasingly aware that B.C.'s reputation was improving and that it was entering the upper echelon of law schools."

"It does seem to be a school on the rise, although it began rising at a point from which its reputation seemed to be already established."

Survey Tables

Table One
Number of Law Schools to Which Admission was Offered

#	Total (250)	Percent	Total (250)	Percent
14	1	.4	0	0
13	1	.4	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
10	1	.4	1	.3
9	4	2.0	1	.3
8	9	4.0	4	1.0
7	9	4.0	6	2.0
6	20	8.0	12	4.0
5	48	19.0	35	11.0
4	51	20.0	63	20.0
3	50	20.0	76	24.0
2	41	16.0	79	25.0
1	15	6.0	44	14.0
MEAN:	4.08		3.18	
MEDIAN:	4.0		3.0	

Table Two
Reasons for Going to Law School
(Check more than one if appropriate.)

	1985		1982	
	Total	%	Total	%
1) Law degree offer great flexibility.	199	80	260	81
2) Long intended to be a lawyer.	165	66	199	62
3) Economy makes other alternatives less attractive	26	10	60	19
4) Nothing better to do.	12	5	22	7
5) Financial aid available this year.	13	5	18	6

Table Three
Reasons for Applying to Boston College Law School (Check more than one if appropriate.)
1985 (Only)

	Total	%
1) Reputation of school.	218	87
2) School located in Boston.	181	72
3) Friendly environment.	132	53
4) Advice of others.	93	37
5) Regarded as school "on the rise."	92	37
6) Closeness to home or convenience.	84	34
7) Placement opportunities.	75	30
8) Reputation of faculty.	56	22
9) Particular courses.	24	10
10) Financial aid better.	21	8
11) School's recruitment or p.r.	21	8
Factors Deemed Important:	1985	
Mean:	3.99	

Table Four
1985 Comparisons — Reasons for Applying vs. Reasons for Choosing to Attend Boston College Law School

	Reason Applied (in percentage)	Reason Attended (in percentage)
1) Reputation of school.	87	94
2) Friendly environment.	53	74
3) Advice of others.	37	43
4) Regarded as school "on the rise."	37	39
5) Closeness to home convenience.	34	47
6) Placement opportunities	30	37
7) Reputation of faculty.	22	32
8) Particular courses.	10	8
9) Better financial aid.	8	16
10) School's recruitment or p.r.	8	11

NLG Sponsors Forum on Anti-Pornography Referendum

By Larry Goldsmith

The National Lawyers Guild, Massachusetts Chapter, sponsored a forum on the Cambridge anti-pornography referendum last Tuesday, October 22, in Cambridge.

The referendum, recently ordered by the Supreme Judicial Court onto the November 5 ballot over the objection of the Cambridge City Council, is a local version of the controversial ordinance authored by Catharine MacKinnon, a feminist legal scholar, and Andrea Dworkin, a feminist anti-pornography activist and writer. The proposed law would amend the recently-enacted Cambridge Human Rights Ordinance to include a category of "sexual discrimination through pornography" by which a woman, man, child or transsexual could seek civil damages against the maker or distributor of pornography that caused such discrimination.

The ordinance includes a detailed nine-part definition of pornography as "the graphic sexually-explicit subordination of women through pictures and/or words that also include one or more of the following: (i) women are presented as dehumanized as sexual objects, things, or commodities; or (ii) women are presented as sexual objects who enjoy pain or humiliation; or (iii) women are presented as sexual objects who experience sexual pleasure in being raped; or (iv) women are presented as sexual objects tied up or cut up or mutilated or bruised or physically hurt; or (v) women are presented in postures of sexual submission, servility, or display; or (vi) women's body parts—

including but not limited to vaginas, breasts, or buttocks—are exhibited such that women are reduced to those parts; or (vii) women are presented as whores by nature; or (viii) women are presented as being penetrated by objects or animals; or (ix) women are presented in scenarios of degradation, injury, torture, shown as filthy or inferior, bleeding, bruised, or hurt in a context that makes these conditions sexual."

"Sex discrimination through pornography" is defined as the forcing of any person to participate in the making of pornography; the production, sale, exhibition or distribution of pornography; and assault or attack on a person "in a way that is directly caused by specific pornography." In the latter case, a civil complaint may be brought against the attacker and/or the maker or distributor of the pornography. The ordinance specifically exempts pornography in libraries and universities that is "available for study," and "isolated passages or isolated parts."

Proponents of the referendum argue that women are harmed by pornography both through being coerced into pornographic performances and through sexist attitudes that are engendered by pornography that subordinates women. Proponents have claimed that by offering a civil remedy to the victims of pornography, the ordinance would avoid the difficult legal question of "obscenity" and the realm of criminal law.

Opponents of the referendum argue that the existence of such a civil remedy would still have a chilling effect on the makers or distributors, even women and feminists, of any sexually-explicit literature or images. Opponents have suggested that where even feminists have had great difficulty in distinguishing between harmful pornography and erotica, such decisions should not be left open to a conservative, male-dominated justice system.

Similar ordinances have been introduced in Minneapolis, Suffolk County, N.Y., and Indianapolis, which is the only city to have passed the measure. The Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, however, recently struck down the Indianapolis ordinance as unconstitutional, citing First Amendment grounds.

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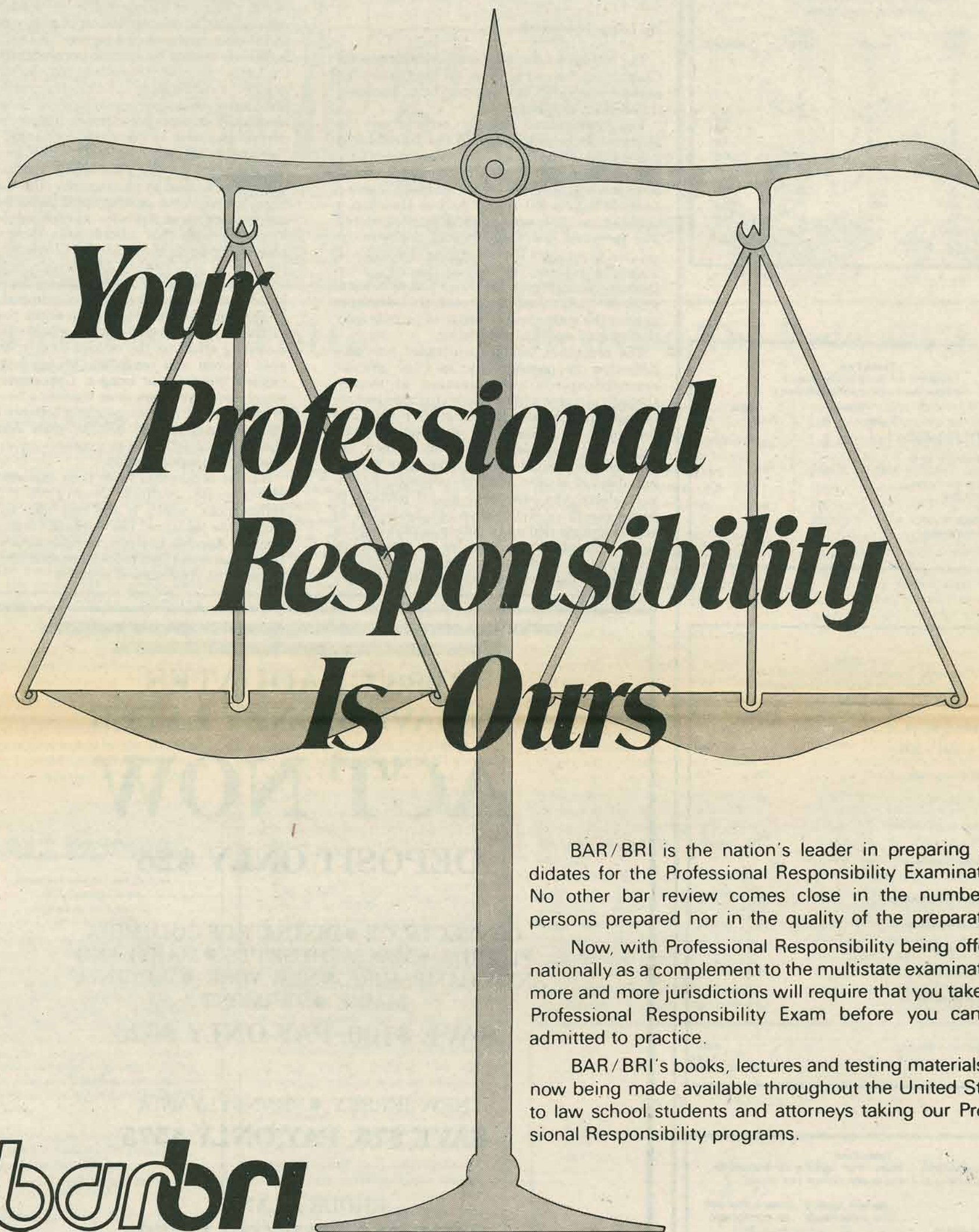
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